



American Cause

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B-1 Status

The B-1 bomber is further delayed. On September 1 House-Senate conferees on defense appropriations voted to delay funding of the bomber until February 1, 1977, when the next President will be in office.

In the interim, money will be appropriated to permit the management and engineering staff to keep up the operation.

The fate of the B-1 bomber hangs on a political thread. Gerald Ford and the Republican Party Platform favor proceeding with construction of the badly needed B-1. It is believed that if Jimmy Carter is elected, the B-1 program will not proceed.

This should most definitely be understood by the voters and should affect their selection of a President.

VOTERS HAVE CLEAR CHOICE

The political run for the numbers is getting down to the wire with both Presidential nominees trying to catch the elusive voters.

In analyzing Carter's meteoric popularity it should be recalled that, when compared with Udall and Harris, he appeared initially to be Conservative. He won with only 30%-35% of the vote—rather than great majorities—in the primaries, so his backing is obviously very thin.

As the campaign accelerates, it is disclosed that Carter's associates and advisers are much the same liberals who gathered around George McGovern so disastrously in 1972. In campaigning, Carter has made numerous embarrassing mistakes and many contradictory statements. (See Tax box, this page.) He topped himself with the unbelievable interview in **Playboy**.

President Ford, on the other hand, had a difficult primary contest in every case and barely nosed out Ronald Reagan.

Ford's post-Convention campaign leadership has not been inspiring, and his committee at times seems badly organized. But he has been helped by Reagan and Connally, two popular and effective conservative leaders who

hold the Republican Party together and at the same time attract enough enlightened Democrats who refuse to hand their party over to socialists, labor leaders, and amalgamated troublemakers.

For many years the liberals, socialists, and communists have denounced both major political parties, saying there is no real difference between them. In an effort to confuse the voters and keep them from the polls, these dissidents downgrade the importance of the ballot and create a feeling of frustration and futility. They know that massive apathy provides the opportunity for organized minorities and control blocs to take over. This happened in England and in Italy, and we cannot afford to have it happen here.

This year the American people will have a much clearer choice at the polls than they have had in many

Carter's Tax Reform

"Taxes on the average citizen can somehow be lowered by increasing taxes on the **rich**." Sound good? Would-be President, would-be spender and would-be tax-reformer Jimmy Carter thought so. By imposing taxes on "somebody else," he undoubtedly thought, the voters wouldn't get angry at the big spenders responsible for the taxes.

Unfortunately, there aren't enough **rich** people to go around. So the money to finance the liberal-sponsored, nefarious social-welfare schemes has to come from taxes on income earned by lower- and middle-income Americans.

Let's check the facts. Of the more than 70 million tax returns filed in 1973, only one percent were filed by Americans with incomes of \$50,000 or more, and these same people paid out approximately 46 percent of their income in taxes.

Untaxed income the year before amounted to more than \$500 billion, and the majority of it belonged to "ordinary" citizens: \$155 billion went untaxed because of the personal exemption, \$70 billion attributed to the standard deduction, \$93 billion attributed to social benefit payment exclusions, \$36 billion because of state and local taxes, and close to \$20 billion because of interest payments on home mortgages.

Only by increasing taxes on lower- and middle-income taxpayers can anyone continue the present level of spending and at the same time lower taxes for anybody else.

years past. The basic philosophies of the two contenders are diametrically opposed.

Carter must go along with the liberal, labor, socialist powers. If he does not, they will attack and destroy him.

Ford is bound by a middle-of-the-road platform which will satisfy all Republicans and many conservative Democrats and Independents.

The voters will have a clear choice between one man who would reduce the size of government and one who would only consolidate the departments and probably expand the existing numbers.

One man wants to cut government spending; the other depends on the very men responsible for this spending for his backing.

One man insists on a strong military establishment; the other wants further cuts in military budgets, which would disarm the United States at a time when our national security is already in jeopardy.

One man wants to return more power to the separate states; the other wants a greater concentration of power in Washington, which would further expand a burden we can no longer endure.

One man wants to help the business sector increase its capital investment (thereby creating thousands of new and productive jobs, which would cut unemployment and halt inflation); the other supports fraudulent schemes for government "make-work" projects.

One man proposes to trim the profligate spending at HEW, bringing useless programs to an end, and to cut foreign aid; the other endorses further experiments in faulty welfare schemes.

The voters this year will have a clear choice between a return to the Conservative philosophy or the endorsement of a man who favors further inroads to destructive liberalism.

Panama Canal Comments

"The United States constructed, maintained, operated, and defended the canal to the benefit of all nations and at a U.S. taxpayers' net investment of almost \$6 billion over the past 60 years. The continued efficient U.S. operation of the canal has resulted in major economic benefits for Panama, including a major contribution to that country's economy...Panama's history of political instability, her inadequate military defense capability, and lack of technical and managerial skills demonstrate that Panama does not possess the capacity to manage, operate, and defend effectively the canal....The United States must insist on retaining the provisions in the treaty which guarantee our rights "in perpetuity" rather than agreeing to surrender these rights at a specified date in the future....The United States must not surrender any jurisdiction, territory, or property which is necessary for the protection of the United States and the Western Hemisphere."

Senator Dewey Bartlett (Okla.)

Congressional Boxscore

The 94th Congress has gone home to campaign, and we hope the constituents carefully view the voting records of their representatives and don't pay too much attention to the campaign oratory. Never mind what he says; notice what he did do.

The overall record is pretty dismal. The voice of the people was not as loud in the Halls of Congress as it should have been. Measured in terms of the nation's priorities, the record must be deemed nonproductive.

In the matter of **Tax Reform**, the results will confound and confuse tax lawyers for many months to come. There was great talk about loopholes and inequities, but the 1,732-page Senate Bill adds further complications to an already overcomplicated situation.

In the matter of **Energy**, we find the same lack of program or progress. The President's plea for energy independence went unanswered. Research and development of sources besides oil were bogged down in bureaucratic bungling. The House voted not to consider a program designed to produce oil and gas from shale, coal gasification, and liquefaction because it might delay the Members' departure for home. Some Members were more interested in breaking up or nationalizing the oil companies than in reducing the impediments to discoveries of new sources of domestic oil and gas. Result: Increased cost and dependence on foreign oil.

Programs designed to fight **Crime** got little or no attention. The Bail Reform Act, an improved drug enforcement law, and a recodification of the Federal Criminal Laws never came out of the Judiciary Committee.

On the **General Economy**, only Presidential vetoes saved us taxpayers from a myriad of pork barrel boondoggles and phoney public works measures. This Congress talks economy but votes for increased spending.

All told, the Congress played at politics with added "oversight" Committees challenging every Executive function while neglecting to properly clean up some of its own "in-house mess."

With reporters swarming the halls and TV cameras grinding, Congressional Committees and Subcommittees vied for public attention and the public problems went unattended.

We hope the people will give Members of Congress their full attention come election time.

FALSE ID RACKET

The Federal Advisory Committee on False Identification reports that the false ID racketeers cost us upward of \$20 billion a year.

Some 75 specialists, ranging from FBI agents and Interpol consultants to social workers, form this committee of the U.S. Attorney General. They found that millions of men and women—using false identification—steal from the food stamp program, welfare, Medicaid, Social Security, and so on.

Hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens—tallied at 8 to 12 million now in the United States—use these false IDs to create a tax burden of more than \$12 billion annually, which must be paid for by the taxpayer.

Illegal aliens cost the government alone some \$200

million a year, and \$100 million of that cost is paid from the Federal Treasury.

Obviously, an effective weapon against false IDs is needed. Watch for our upcoming article on National Identity Cards.

MAINLAND CHINA

As we prophesized months ago, Mainland China is now in a turmoil because of the death of Mao Tse-tung. It is obvious that the Communist stronghold never really extended beyond the big cities and was usually enforced by terrorism and strength.

The swing now is apparently away from Communism and more to middle-of-the-road programs that will permit economic development. This is on the good side because we can be of greater help to the recovery of China than any other country.

On the bad side, however, is the possibility of a military take-over to solve the turmoil, which would greatly increase the chance of China and Russia joining forces against us. This is one of the problems of detente which has worried us at **American Cause** from the very beginning. If the two great Communist nations join forces, it could be most dangerous for the free world.

Other good news is the fact that those responsible for the so-called Cultural Revolution, during which time approximately 50 million Chinese lost their lives, have been placed in jail and apparently are to be purged.

More bad news, however, is in the fact that many parts of China are suffering food shortages, vandalism is on the upswing, and the general condition of the people is not really as happy as the propagandists would have us believe. The number of refugees leaving the mainland by way of Hong Kong continues to increase each year.

It would seem ideal if the new rulers on Mainland China could rid themselves of the evil effects of Mao's Communism and pattern their society more after the plan of Taiwan.

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The Honorable George Murphy, Director

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Bell Telephone Hour Outstanding

AT&T's "Jubilee" show, co-hosted by Bing Crosby, was one of the best produced, most delightful and entertaining programs aired on TV in a long time.

AC would like to congratulate all concerned on the concept, the public relations value, and the clean, healthy, American atmosphere we are sure it created clear across the country. We hope other industries will take note and follow suit.

U.S. SLIPPAGE TO NUMBER 2

Brookings Institution, bastion of left-leaning, liberal intellectuals and oftentimes critical of American military spending, now admits that more money will be necessary for military hardware during the next decade. There are indications that for fiscal year 1978 the defense budget could increase by \$20 to \$30 billion no matter who occupies the White House.

Rep. Les Aspin (Wis.), long-time Pentagon critic, probably summed it up best when he conceded that Soviet arms' spending "cannot be ignored." It is obviously time we realize that the Soviets are not just interested in military parity but are aiming at superiority in every phase of defense.

American Cause believes that the United States must wisely stand up to this threat knowing that even though arms races are unwanted, often costly and sometimes wasteful, it's a contest we can't afford to lose.

THE CASE AGAINST DANIEL SCHORR

The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States says "Congress shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press." That is all it says.

This is a great privilege, and the press of the United States certainly has taken full advantage of it, even to the point in many cases of unrestrained license.

Lately, it has become the fashion of the press to wrap this great charter of freedom around themselves and proclaim their freedom to do many irregular things, such as publishing secret grand jury proceedings or secret documents that play into the hands of the nation's enemies, jeopardize the national security, or make more difficult the conduct of foreign affairs.

It was in this environment that Daniel Schorr appeared on the scene.

He obtained a copy of a secret document dealing with CIA activities. This document was drastically slanted against the CIA, it contained a great mass of secret information furnished to Congress by the Execu-

tive branch. Any idea that Congress would or could protect this information was exploded when excerpts from the report appeared in newspapers. The House voted 246 to 124 to give the Executive the right to review and censor the report before it was made available for publication. But Schorr, determined apparently to be in the forefront of the leaking business, obtained a copy secretly and with equal secrecy made it available to the **Village Voice**, a left-leaning, New York City weekly. In doing this, he leaked a document which had been given to him as a CBS correspondent to a publication not connected with his own outfit and without informing his superiors that he was doing so. He denied at first that he had given the report to the **Village Voice**. Later, he admitted that he had lied.

All this does not appear to add up to heroism in defense of the First Amendment. In fact, it raises a number of questions which thinking people, including responsible journalists, ought to be concerned about.

Are the American news media—the press, TV, and radio—going to acknowledge their responsibility to the American people and their government? Or are they going to continue to exploit the privilege of the First Amendment without conceding any responsibility to anybody or anything? Are the media willing to recognize that it owes some responsibility to the government which gives it unlimited freedom? Or will it continue to publish secret information, surreptitiously obtained or provided, which is detrimental to the interests of the United States? Who is to decide what information should remain secret, the officials responsible for it or unidentified leakers who provide it to the news media for reasons known only to themselves? Will the Executive be able to provide Congress with secret information which it believes it needs in fulfillment of its legislative duties? Or will there be a continuation of the dismal game in which responsible leaders in Congress are thwarted by unnamed leakers who provide the information to collaborators such as Schorr? In other words, can responsible government be conducted or will leakers and their media collaborators continue to make a joke of orderly government?

This situation is crying for sensible answers rather than more florid oratory, and it would seem that responsible journalists who wish to keep the First Amendment in perpetuity and without emasculation or change would want to address their attention to it.

We at **American Cause** feel that every privilege carries with it an attendant obligation.

Poll Watch

Results of the nationwide **American Cause** Gun Control Poll will be released in the November newsletter.

BEYOND BELIEF

We've all heard about Texas oil, Texas cattle, Texas money...it's always bigger than life in Texas. And we may well start to believe it. A variation on that theme is in the works for Big D where, in the not-too-distant future, a couple of police officers will be assigned to a brand-new Law Enforcement Assistance Administration "prototype patrol vehicle" developed by Aerospace Corp. at a cost of more than \$2 million under the LEAA contract.

The car, a basically well-engineered, police-modified Pontiac, is so filled with Buck Rogers gadgets that veteran policemen have a hard time believing this "space capsule on wheels" is really intended to help them catch lawbreakers.

This "properly-outfitted" (LEAA's definition) squad car includes:

- A dashboard light (to tell the car's occupants whether or not their siren is turned on),
- A \$10,000 IBM micro-computer,
- A \$2,500 computer printout writer,
- A main computer display screen (which displays exactly the same information as the printer),
- A computer "alert" screen (which headlines what is being shown on the main display and being printed on the printer),
- Two tape decks, one to "re-program" the computer and one to record conversations,
- Ten dashboard sensors and monitors (to tell the driver he is not achieving maximum fuel efficiency during hot pursuit),
- Two "skillfully" designed bucket seats, a dubious bargain at \$6,500 per pair, which are all of 16 inches wide,
- And, of course, two police officers—assuming they can fit within the 16 inches, which is all the space left for human beings after the computer gadgets are installed.

American Cause believes that the best deterrent to crime is prompt arrest, trial and conviction. Luxurious playtoys such as described here can never replace the intelligence and dedication of the community law enforcement officer, but this ridiculous waste can anger the taxpayer. And we believe this is true even in bigger and better Texas.